



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

Welcoming Week

WHEREAS, since our nation's founding, American prosperity has been fueled by the recognition that we are stronger as a nation when we work together as a people; and

WHEREAS, our nation's and state's success has always been the product of our unique capacity to welcome the contributions and spirit of entrepreneurship of all people, regardless of race, gender, creed, or country of origin, who seek to achieve the American dream; and

WHEREAS, we must create welcoming communities that leverage the full potential of all who live there; we must capitalize on diverse perspectives, cultures and talents as the most valuable assets in an economy where knowledge, creativity and innovation reap the greatest benefits; we must build communities that welcome all who live there; and these goals speak to our deepest values as Americans, and to our greatest aspirations for prosperity, economic growth and global competitiveness; and


WHEREAS, across Rhode Island newcomers and long-time residents are joining together to build welcoming communities, working side by side to create strong, secure and successful places for themselves, their families and neighbors, and as they do so, they are also helping to ensure Rhode Island's future; and

WHEREAS, let us come together to build communities where every resident has the opportunity to contribute his or her best and create more prosperous communities, and to reaffirm that Rhode Island still stands as a beacon of freedom and opportunity; and

WHEREAS, this week, we honor the spirit of unity that is bringing together neighbors across Rhode Island – immigrant and native-born - to work side by side to build stronger communities and renew our commitment to our core American values by taking action in the spirit of welcoming; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim September 15-21, 2012 Welcoming Week in Rhode Island and encourage all citizens to recognize the importance of this week.




A. Ralph Mollis
Secretary of State

Given under my hand and the great
seal of the State of Rhode Island
and Providence Plantations,
this 11th day of September, 2012


Lincoln D. Chafee
Governor